

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/892,457
Amendment dated October 31, 2003
Reply to OA of August 1, 2003

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (Currently amended): A resol resin composition comprising a resol-type phenol resin (A), an alkali earth metal oxide and/or an alkali earth metal hydroxide (B), and ammonium thiosulfate (C);
wherein the resol resin composition does not contain $AlCl_3$.
2. (Original): The composition according to claim 1, wherein the alkali earth metal oxide and/or the alkali earth metal hydroxide (B) are an oxide and/or a hydroxide of magnesium, calcium or barium.
3. (Canceled).
4. (Previously Presented): The composition according to claim 1, or 2, wherein the alkali earth metal oxide and/or the alkali earth metal hydroxide (B) are a powder and/or a granulate.
5. (Currently amended): The resol resin composition according to claim 1, or 2, wherein 1 to 10000 parts by weight of the alkali earth metal oxide and/or the alkali earth metal hydroxide (B) and 0.1 to 15 parts by weight of ammonium thiosulfate are used based on 100 parts by weight of the resol-type phenol resin (A).

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6. (Original): The composition according to claim 5, wherein the alkali earth metal oxide and/or the alkali earth metal hydroxide (B) are a powder and/or a granulate.

7. (Previously Presented): A method for curing a resol resin, which comprises curing the resol resin composition of claim 1 at a temperature of from 10 to 110°C.

8. (Previously Presented): A method for curing a resol resin, which comprises curing the resol resin composition of claim 2 at a temperature of from 10 to 110°C.

9. (Previously Presented): A method for curing a resol resin, which comprises curing the resol resin composition of claim 3 at a temperature of from 10 to 110°C.